

Regional Child Abuse Prevention Councils (RPC)

RPC Program Description

Since 1991, the Department has provided funding to Regional Child Abuse Prevention Councils to educate communities and to provide information about child abuse/neglect and its prevention. There are currently 15 funded councils located throughout the state of Arizona.

The purpose of a Regional Council is to increase public awareness of the problem through educational campaigns and advocate for effective programs and policies to prevent child abuse and neglect. A Regional Council is comprised of community representatives from the professional, business and civic sectors who volunteer their time to address the need for child abuse prevention in their community. A Regional Council has elected officers and meets on a regular basis (usually monthly).

Program Eligibility

There is no eligibility criteria for Regional Councils and Councils are made up of volunteers in each community. Information and educational campaigns are targeted to the general public.

Program Goals and Services

Each council must complete two mandatory campaigns each year:

- * Income Tax Check Off Campaign (Campaign runs from January-April)
- * April Child Abuse Prevention Month Campaign (Campaign runs in April).

Councils may elect to choose additional campaigns, such as Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE), Never Shake a Baby, Earned Income Tax credit education, Character Counts, and Internet Safety. Many of the Regional Councils are 501 C-3 organizations and can do additional fund raising to support these efforts.

Statewide meetings are held two times per year, and at least one member of each council is required to attend.

Demographics of Population Served

Regional Prevention Councils serve children and families from all demographic areas in their geographic area. Most Councils have materials available in Spanish and Native American languages.

Program Outcomes

The 15 Statewide Regional Child Abuse Prevention Councils estimate they have impacted millions of individuals through education and public awareness activities. Some examples of the types of activities include: newspaper and radio advertising, school newsletters, distribution of blue ribbon campaign items, information provided at resource fairs, attendance at conferences, and movie theatre billboard advertising.